December 3, 1968

AIRTEL

TO : SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

Enclosed for Memphis and Savannah is one Xerox copy of letter and envelope sent to Mrs. DONNELLY by RAY RUSSELL.

Mrs. GLORIA DONNELLY, owner, 2731 North Sheffield, Chicago, Illinois, made available a letter from RAY RUSSELL and the envelope the letter came in, to Agents of the Chicago Division. For the information of Savannah, investigation has previously established that JAMES EARL RAY, using the name of JOHN LARRY RAYNS, rented a room, which was the rear basement apartment at 2731 North Sheffield, and resided at that address from April 30, 1967, to sometime in May or June, 1967.

Mrs. DONNELLY contacted Agents due to the fact that letter signed by RAY RUSSELL, who is apparently an inmate at the prison at Reidsville, Georgia, refers to the rear basement apartment and mentions the name, JOHN LARRY RAYNS. Mrs. DONNELLY cannot recall the identity of RAY RUSSELL. She has checked her rent records and cannot find anyone by that name that rented from them. Mrs. DONNELLY also advised she does not understand why RUSSELL would be writing to her asking her for help in getting money.

2 - Savannah (Enc. 1)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)
1 - Chicago

JMB/kag
(5)

44-1114-774

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
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CG 44-1114

LEADS -

SAVANNAH

AT REIDSVILLE, GEORGIA. 1. Interview RAY RUSSELL at the Reidsville Prison. Determine if and when RUSSELL resided at 2731 North Sheffield, check what name he used at the time, what money he is referring to in his letter, and what knowledge he has of JOHN LARRY RAYNS.

2. Obtain photographs, description, and FBI Number of RUSSELL, and make same available to Chicago.